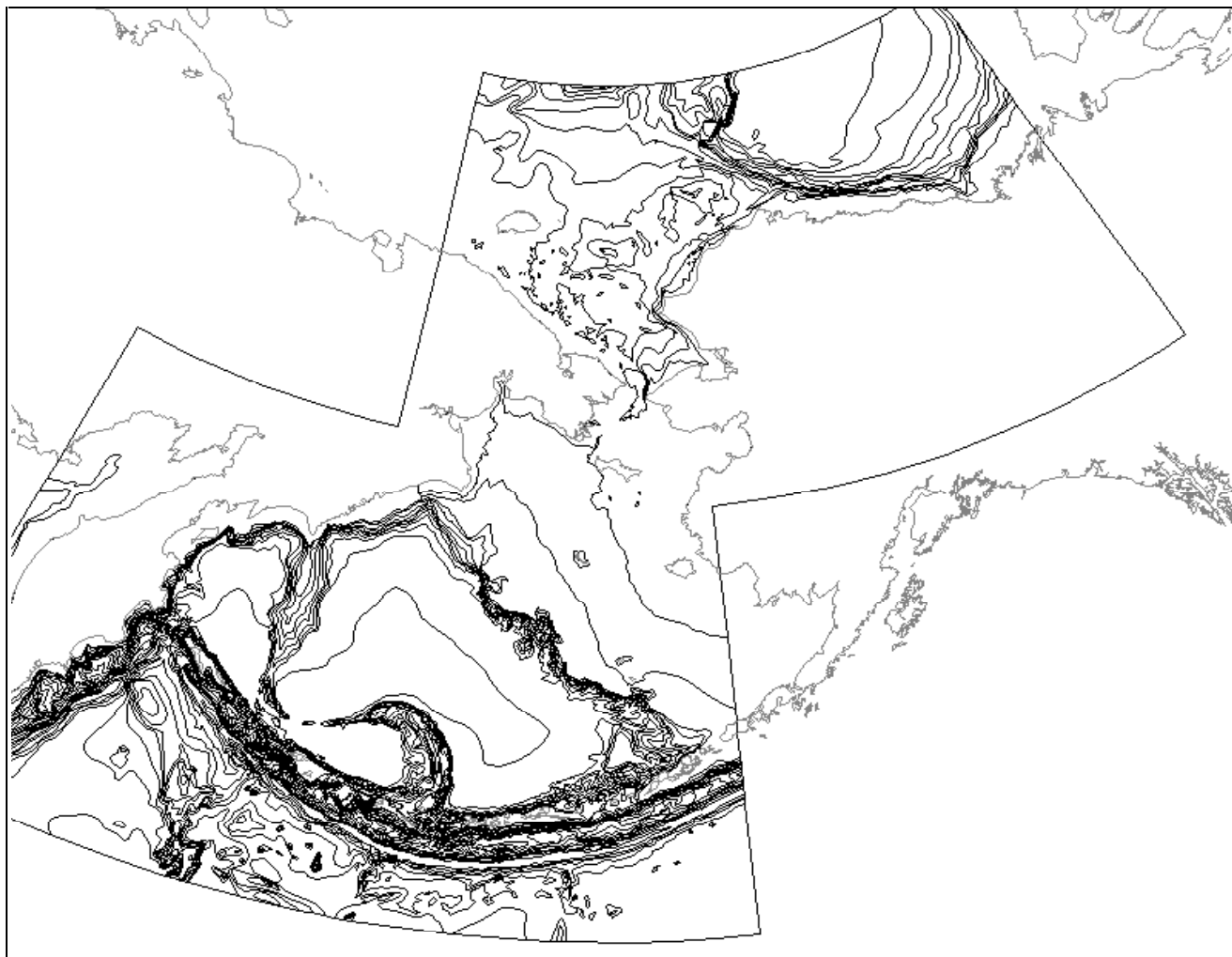


BERING AND CHUKCHI SEA
BENTHIC INVERTEBRATE LITERATURE
Alaska Biological Science Center



Biological Resources Division
United States Geological Survey

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DATABASE OVERVIEW

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The Alaska Biological Science Center (ABSC), of USGS Biological Resources Division, has conducted research on marine animals in the Bering and Chukchi seas since the mid-1980s. This geospatial database was created to make available benthic invertebrate distribution data useful to assist marine animal research.

This report describes the benthic invertebrate literature database. The area of interest is bounded by the western Alaska coast to Point Barrow (155 W longitude) and eastern Russia coast to Wrangel Island (182 E longitude), Aleutian Islands in the south (51 N latitude) and approximately 75 N latitude in the north.

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INTRODUCTION

This database contains pertinent information from journal articles, book chapters, and government agency reports. Table 1 lists the fields and field descriptions contained in the literature database as they appear in the printed *Paradox* report and *Adobe Acrobat* file.

The literature database is numbered by the field **REF_NO**, which corresponds to the reference number of the article. Database users can examine the database by reviewing the printed *Paradox* report or querying the database. The printed Paradox report contains a one-page synopsis of each article and a map (.gif format) of the geographic extent of research described in the article. (The maps were generated in Arc/INFO using the database fields **SE_LAT**, **SE_LON**, **NW_LAT** and **NW_LON**.) A user wishing to locate articles written on a specific region, taxon, or sampling method can use queries in Paradox to narrow down the number of articles to examine and the number of fields to list.

Table 1. List and description of benthic invertebrate database fields. The Paradox database is part of the Bering/Chukchi Sea Databases.

Database Field	Field Description	Database Field	Field Description
REF_NO	Reference number of article, matches reprint number	AUTHOR	Senior author of article
PUB_YR	Year article published	N_AUTH	Number of authors on article
PUB	Name of journal, book, report, or thesis	TYPE	Journal, book, government report, or thesis
C_REF	Reference numbers of other articles that use or refer to the same data	AREA	Generalized size of sample area in square kilometers
SEA	Bering and/or Chukchi Sea	REGION	More detailed description of location
SE_LAT	Southern most latitude of area sampled, decimal degrees	SE_LON	Eastern most longitude of area sampled, decimal degrees
NW_LAT	Northern most latitude of area sampled, decimal degrees	NW_LON	Western most longitude of area sampled, decimal degrees
START	First year data were collected	END	Last year data were collected
SEASON	Month(s) or season(s) when data were collected	GRAB	Yes/no, were grab or core samples taken?
G_SAMP	Number of stations where grab samples were collected	G_SIZE	Size of grab sample
G_REP	Number of replicate samples taken at each station	TRAWL	Yes/no, were trawl samples collected?
T_SAMP	Number of stations where trawl samples were collected	T_WIDTH	Width of trawl net opening
T_MESH	Size of trawl mesh, in millimeters	OTHER	Yes/no, were other methods used to collect samples?
O_SAMP	Number of stations where other methods used to collect samples	N_SPP	Total number of invertebrate species or other taxonomic group collected
ABUND	How abundance presented	TAXON1	Most abundant taxonomic group sampled
TAXON2	Second most abundant taxonomic group	TAXON3	Third most abundant taxonomic group
SP_LIST	How species or taxonomic groups are listed (appendix or table) and thoroughness of list (all or partial)	SIZE	Yes/no, are data on invertebrate size included?
CITATION	Full citation of article	NODC	Yes/no/unknown/maybe, are these data in the NODC benthic organism data file and point coverages
VESSEL	Name sampling platform, useful for tracking between NODC and literature database	TRACKNO	Reference to NODC benthic organism data track number, if known
TRACKNO2	Reference to 2nd NODC track number, if more than one		